

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 167

By White

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Ernest Burgess upon his exemplary service as Rutherford County mayor.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are pleased to recognize a gentleman who has dedicated the past twelve years to serving his fellow Rutherford Countians as mayor, expertly managing the county's funds and resources as it experienced rapid growth and increased demand for services; and

WHEREAS, first elected Rutherford County mayor in 2006, Ernest Burgess presided over his last county commission meeting on August 16, 2018; and

WHEREAS, during his three terms in office, Rutherford County literally grew leaps and bounds from a population of 231,500 to 317,000, or a nearly thirty-seven percent increase; and

WHEREAS, under his visionary leadership, Rutherford County's economy flourished, its school system earned recognition as one of the best in the State, and a full-time fire/rescue department was established; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Burgess worked with purpose and acumen to secure funding for the county's new multi-million-dollar Judicial Center and the new parking garage in the downtown area; and

WHEREAS, as county mayor, Ernest Burgess provided valuable leadership as a member of several regional boards and the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Burgess has also given back to his community through service on the boards of the Discovery Center, Linebaugh Library, United Way, Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) Foundation, and Main Street of Murfreesboro and as an elder at North Boulevard Church of Christ; and

WHEREAS, a man of many interests and talents, Ernest Burgess is a farmer, businessman, graduate of both MTSU and the University of Tennessee, and proud lifelong resident of Rutherford County; and

WHEREAS, he is fortunate to share love and companionship with his wife of nearly sixty years, Peggy, and their three children, seven grandchildren, and great-grandson; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Burgess is a faithful supporter of Mindful Care Adult Day Services, and he will be honored for his many contributions to Rutherford County at an event to be held by that esteemed organization on April 6, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Ernest Burgess has distinguished himself as a public servant of rare ability and integrity, and he is richly deserving of our approbation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Ernest Burgess upon his exemplary twelve-year tenure as Rutherford County mayor, salute his proficient leadership and dedicated service in all walks of public life, and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.